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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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(CONTAINS CODEWORD)

May 30, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER  
FROM: WILLIAM L. STEARMAN *WLS*  
SUBJECT: Communist Cease-Fire Violations

The CIA/DIA have submitted their weekly report (May 18-24) of Communist violations of the Vietnam and Laos cease-fire agreements (Tab A). The report notes the following developments.

-- Five new regular infiltration groups (total of 3,000 personnel) were detected starting south, probably for northern MR-1. Gaps in the numbering system indicate that two additional groups (1,000 troops) also entered the pipeline. Total infiltration since the cease-fire now stands at 49,000, including 24,000 who started south after January 27.

-- Recent evidence suggests that the North Vietnamese have been temporarily rotating a number of units (e.g., elements of the 304 and 320B divisions) out of Quang Tri Province for rest and refitting.

-- Although NVA supply activity has diminished in the Lao Panhandle as a result of heavy rains (e.g., only 43 southbound vehicles transited the Ban Karai Pass during the week), heavy traffic continues in the tri-border area, in northern MR I and in the North Vietnamese Panhandle, where large rail shipments of ammunition were noted.

-- Additionally, the headquarters of two major NVA logistics command authorities in the Laos Panhandle/northeastern Cambodia area shifted eastward into South Vietnam. The significance of this move is unclear, but it could be related to Communist plans -- at least during the Lao rainy season -- to carry out most resupply via South Vietnam rather than Laos.

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XGDS by Auth CIA/DIA

DIA review completed.

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-- In combat violations in South Vietnam, the GVN reported a marked decrease in major Communist-initiated incidents (down to 48 from 82 last week), but the minor incidents changed little (489 versus 485 last week). In Laos, military activity remains low.

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**Fourteenth Report**

**COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS OF  
THE VIETNAM AND LAOS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS**

**(This report covers the week from  
18 May through 24 May 1973)**

*This memorandum has been prepared jointly by the  
Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense*

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